



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
UNITED STATES SOUTHERN COMMAND
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDER
3511 NW 91ST AVENUE
MIAMI, FL 33172-1217

17 November 2004


Commander

To the Men and Women of United States Southern Command

Thanksgiving is a uniquely American holiday, a time when we gather with friends and family to reflect on how blessed we are to live in a country with all of our freedoms and liberties. This year, in many homes across our great nation, military families will gather around the traditional dinner table just thankful to be together. In others, a loved one may be patrolling the battlefields of Iraq and Afghanistan, embarked aboard a ship at sea, or deployed to a remote location in Colombia, Cuba or elsewhere in our AOR.

On this Thanksgiving Day, when you join with your friends and family, remember our fellow servicemen and women who will gather wherever they are in dining facilities and in ships' galleys to equally give thanks.

I want to extend my personal gratitude to you all and give thanks to the many dedicated men and women of the US Southern Command for the work you are doing to protect and defend the citizens of our great Nation. In this spirit, I wish each and every one of you and your families a happy Thanksgiving.


BANTZ J. CRADDOCK
General, US Army
Commander